

Profession of Faith: #14

Apostles' Creed

*Hymn #576

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Charge

Sung Response #576-(vs.2)

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

The world behind me, the cross before me,

The world behind me, the cross before me,

The world behind me, the cross before me—

No turning back, no turning back.

Benediction

Postlude

"Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet"

K. Kaiser

Prayer Concerns

Members: Nick and Becky Deschamps, Nathalie Givens, Hi Nicely, Meg and Bob Omer

Friends and family of FPC: Jason and Linda Jenkins (neighbors of the Porters), Laura Holt McCann, Heather Mitchell, (music director and secretary at FUMC), Emily Parker (David Dickerson's cousin) the family of Carl Rubis (Lori Turner's Uncle, Pat Roberts brother-in-law), the family of Joyce Bolton Turbyfill (Lynne Bolton's aunt), Mary Rae (organist at FUMC).



Fincastle Presbyterian Church



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Mission Statement:

Striving to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, growing in God through uplifting and inspiring spiritual experiences, and serving the community in love.

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The Worshiping Church Hymnal: 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Carol Stream, IL —

Service Music: # 823 Kyrie , #805 Gloria Patri, # 808 Doxology

Hymns: #520— *"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"*; #576 — *"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"*.

Hymns and Devotions for Daily Worship: 2024 Hymnology Archive, Lexington Rd. Louisville, KY —6

#218 — *"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"*

Service Music: *"Open My Eyes, That I May See"* — C. Scott *"Hymn Favorites"*, © Arr. 1999 Broadman Press and Van Ness, Inc.; *"In His Time"*—D. Ball, *"Sing the Faith"* © 1978 CCM Music by Maranatha! Music; *"Sweet Hour of Prayer"* W. Bradbury/W. Walford, *"Hymn Favorites"*, © Arr. 1997 by Pilot Point Music; *"Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet"*— N. Sleeth, *"Sing the Faith"* © Hinshaw Music, Inc.

Service for the Lord's Day

June 29, 2025 —10:30 am In Person & (Live Streaming—10:20 am)

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Music

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude: *"Open My Eyes, That I May See"*
C. Scott

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (Responsive) (Psalm 95:6,7; KJV)

One: O come, let us worship and bow down:

Many: let us kneel before the Lord our maker,

One: For he is our God;

Many: and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

One: Praise the Lord!

Many: The Lord's name be praised!

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn #520 *" 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"*
Children's Time: *"You Can Do Hard Things!"*
Lori Turner



Call to Confession: (Responsive)

One: The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us.

Many: Because we have faith in him, we dare with confidence to approach God.

All: Let us ask God to forgive us.

Prayer of Confession: (Unison)

Almighty God,

You love us, but we have not loved you; you call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns. We have gone along with evil, with prejudice, warfare, and greed.

God, our Father, help us to face up to ourselves, so that, as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession: Amen

Kyrie: **Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.** #823

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

One: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ,

Many: and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

One: If a person is in Christ, that person becomes a new person altogether—

Many: the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.

One: Friends: Believe the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.** #805

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer



Offering:

Regular Offering

Offertory

"In His Time"
D. Ball

*Doxology:

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

#808

*Prayer of Dedication



Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading: (pew bible pages 319 &320) 2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14

Hymn (see Insert) *"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"*

New Testament Readings: (pew bible page 901) Luke 9:51-62

Sermon: *"Follow The Leader: Jesus!"*

Rev. Dr. David Dickerson

Meditation *"Sweet Hour of Prayer"*
W. Bradbury/W. Walford

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ Let us continue to celebrate our June Birthdays and plan for July! **Today**—Kaye Lowe and David Dickerson, July 7—Connie Miles, July 9—Tim Heinlein, July 11—Julia Ward (Bailey), July 15—Nancy Pauley, July 23 — Cathy Goad, July 28— Vickie Littleton.
- ◆ **Back Street Ringers Practice**— no practice today. **Joyful Singers** practice will be on Wed., July 2 at 3:30 pm. All are welcome! If interested, see Lori.
- ◆ Next Sunday, July 6, will be our **2 ¢ A Meal Special Offering**. Don't forget to plan on bringing those cans and jars filled with your change and bills!
- ◆ **Botetourt Food Pantry** volunteer opportunities are available on July 18 and 25. Check the sign-up sheet by the side entrance. Ask Teri Walker if you have any questions.
- ◆ **Faith and Family Night with the Salem Red Socks** is coming up on **July 18!** We get wonderful "loaded tickets" and are able to get Great Seats at \$11.00 per ticket—If you sign up by June 30! After June 30 the price will increase to \$13.00 per ticket. Check the sign-up sheet in the side lobby or ask Danette if you have any questions.
- ◆ Check the calendar downstairs for openings on the Fellowship calendar!
- ◆ **QR Code for an E-Giving option:**



Clerk of Session: John Kilby

Class of 2025: Fred Coots, Lynne Bolton, Jim Porter

Class of 2026: Lyn Burton, Hal Bailey, Patsy Dickerson

Class of 2027: Cathy Goad, Patty Vari, Teri Walker

The Trustees

Bob Omer, Garland Jones, Peggy Davis

The Church Staff

Interim Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson

Treasurer: Hal Bailey

Music Director: Lori Turner

Secretary/Bookkeeper: Danette Heinlein

Calendar of Events

Planned office hours for week of June 30
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday: 10:00—4:00

- Sunday, June 29** **3rd Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship Service: 10:30 am
Duty Elders: Patsy Dickerson & Patty Vari
Fellowship: Danette
- Wed., July 2
Friday, July 4 Joyful Singers Practice 3:30 pm, Sanctuary
Independence Day, federal holiday
- Sunday, July 6** **4th Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship Service: 10:30 am
Duty Elders: _____ and _____
Fellowship: _____
Back Street Ringers practice 12-1:00
Joyful Singers Practice 3:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Wed., July 9
Friday, July 11
Sat., July 12 Private Wedding Rehearsal, 4:30 pm
Private Wedding, reserved, all day
- Sunday, July 13** **5th Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship Service: 10:30 am
Duty Elders: Lyn Burton & Cathy Goad
Fellowship: _____
Guest Musician: David Austin
- Thur., July 17
Fri., July 18 HFI, 6:00 Fellowship
Faith & Family Night at Salem Red Sox



Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Refrain:

Swing low, sweet chariot,
Coming for to carry me home.
Swing low, sweet chariot,
Coming for to carry me home.

1. I looked over Jordan and what did I see?
Coming for to carry me home?
A band of angels coming after me.
Coming for to carry me home. [Refrain]

2. If you get there before I do,
Coming for to carry me home,
Tell all my friends I'm coming too,
Coming for to carry me home. [Refrain]

3. I'm sometimes up and sometimes down,
Coming for to carry me home,
But still my soul feels heavenly bound,
Coming for to carry me home. [Refrain]

Source: [Hymns and Devotions for Daily Worship #218](#)

The Story Behind

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" was composed by Wallace Willis and Minerva Willis, Choctaw freedmen in the old Indian Territory in what is now Choctaw County, near the County seat of Hugo, Oklahoma, sometime after 1865. It is believed that he may have been inspired by the sight of the Red River; he often worked close to it. The river reminded him of the Jordan River and of the Prophet Elijah being taken to heaven by a chariot (2 Kings 2:11).

Many believe that the lyrics also referred to the Underground Railroad, the freedom movement that helped black people escape from Southern slavery to the North and Canada.

Some of the earliest performances of this were done by the Fisk Jubilee Singers who brought the song to the attention of wider audiences in the late 19th century

Old Testament Reading

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Now when the LORD was about to take Eli'jah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Eli'jah and Eli'sha were on their way from Gilgal. ²And Eli'jah said to Eli'sha, "Tarry here, I pray you; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Eli'sha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

⁶Then Eli'jah said to him, "Tarry here, I pray you; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Eli'jah took his mantle, and rolled it up, and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

⁶Then Eli'jah said to him, "Tarry here, I pray you; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Eli'jah took his mantle, and rolled it up, and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Eli'jah said to Eli'sha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Eli'sha said, "I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." ¹¹And as they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Eli'jah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²And Eli'sha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and rent them in two pieces. ¹³And he took up the mantle of Eli'jah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴Then he took the mantle of Eli'jah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Eli'jah?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other; and Eli'sha went over.

New Testament Reading

Luke 9:51-62

⁵¹When the days drew near for him to be received up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him; ⁵³but the people would not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to bid fire come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶And they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ⁶⁰But he said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶²Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

#520 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

1 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
just to take him at his word,
just to rest upon his promise,
just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

Refrain:

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!

2 O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
just to trust his cleansing blood,
just in simple faith to plunge me
'neath the healing, cleansing flood! (Refrain)

3 Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
just from sin and self to cease,
just from Jesus simply taking
life and rest, and joy and peace. (Refrain)

4 I'm so glad I learned to trust thee,
precious Jesus, Savior, Friend,
and I know that thou art with me,
wilt be with me to the end. (Refrain)

#576 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

1 I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus—
no turning back, no turning back.

2 The world behind me, the cross before me,
the world behind me, the cross before me,
the world behind me, the cross before me—
no turning back, no turning back.

3 Though none go with me, still I will follow,
though none go with me, still I will follow,
though none go with me, still I will follow—
no turning back, no turning back.

4 Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?—
no turning back, no turning back.